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1/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hetherington

Serial No.: 09/684,205 ✓

Group No.: 2673

Filed: October 6, 2000

Examiner: J. Nguyen

For: MOVING DIELECTRIC, CAPACITIVE POSITION SENSOR CONFIGURATIONS

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
JAN 28 2003  
Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 8, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed is a true copy of the originally filed drawing with red ink markings to show proposed changes for the approval of the Examiner.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

*Replace the paragraph on page 13, lines 3-14 with the following:*

Figure 5 is a drawing which illustrates the applicability of the invention to a joystick including a z-axis control capability. The non-directional lever has been replaced with a rotational control, preferably including a knob 502 and a shaft pin 504 coupled to an asymmetric disk 510. The disk 510 includes a keyed hole 512 in registration with the shaft pin 504; otherwise, the transmitting and detector plates 514, 516, including respective metallization patterns 518, 520, are similar if not identical to the plates in the non-Z-axis version described above. The use is again preferably housed in a plastic base 522, through which a joystick type lever 503 protrudes. A spring 530, spring seat 532 and retaining clip 534 are preferably used to keep the lever 503 with knob attached thereto biased upwardly for fine control. Related electronics 540 (not shown) are again preferably located on the lower PCB 514.